

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01531 061539Z

53

ACTION NEA-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BAGB, BTLO, LY

SUBJ: LARG INTEREST IN AGRICULTURAL AIRCRAFT

REF: TRIPOLI 1204

1. FURTHER TO REFTEL--IN EARLY NOVEMBER SALINAS VISITED EMBASSY WITH WHAT HE SAID WAS DRAFT CONTRACT WITH MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURAL AIRCRAFT (WITH POTENTIAL SALES OF 80 AIRCRAFT), THREE ROCKWELL 690B AND ONE SABERLINER EXECUTIVE AIRCRAFT, 10 PERCENT SPARES, TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE. CONTRACT (IN ARABIC) WHICH WAS READ BY COMMERCIAL ASSISTANT, WAS ACTUALLY FOR CONSTRUCTION HANGAR/BASE, AND SUPPLY TRAINING/MAINTENANCE PROGRAM TO INCLUDE 21 PERSONS--PILOTS, MAINTENANCE ENGINEERS, AN OPERATIONS MANAGER AND OPUCONTROLLER. SALINAS SAID HE REPRESENTS THE DARTMOUTH CORPORATION OF DALLAS, TEXAS WITH OFFICE IN PARIS, AND THAT HE IS A "DEALER" FOR ROCKWELL. HE EARLIER HAD TOLD US THAT HE REPRESENTS CESSNA AIRCRAFT THROUGH REX-TEX EQUIPMENT OF INDIANAPOLIS. SALINAS SAYS HE HAS INSIDE TRACK ON THIS DEAL BECAUSE HE IS SPONSORED BY RCC MEMBER ABU BAKR YUNUS WHOM HE HAD MET IN DAMASCUS.

2. ALTHOUGH WE SOMEHAT PUZZLED BY SALINAS "DEALS," IT IS CLEAR THAT LARG IS INTERESTED IN PURCHASE OF APPROXIMATELY 25 U.S. AGRICULTURAL AIRCRAFT. CHAIRMAN OF LARG AIRCRAFT TECHNICAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE, AIR FORCE CAPT. MUSTAFA HASUMI, TOLD US THAT LARG
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PAGE 02 TRIPOL 01531 061539Z

INTERESTED IN PURCHASING ROCKWELL AIRCRAFT. HASUMI

SAID HE CONSIDERING TRIP TO U.S. THIS MONTH, AND
WOULD PERHAPS VISIT U.S. LIGHT AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURERS.
WE OFFERED ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING VISITS.

3. WILL ADVISE CAGNE IF HASUMI ABLE SCHEDULE TRAVEL
TO U.S. MANUFACTURERS.
CARLE

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NNN

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